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B8D DSC2

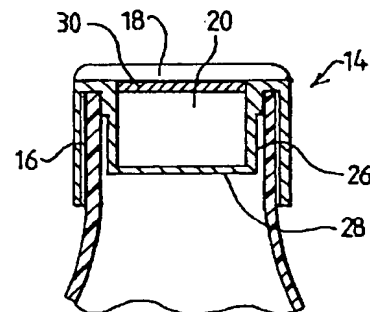
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(58) Field of Search:
UK CL (Edition T) B8D, B8T
INT CL⁷ B65D
Other: ONLINE: EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI

(54) Abstract Title: Closure for containers having integral container

(57) A closure (14) for a container (16), in this case a bottle of liquid, is described. The closure comprises a second container (20), access to the second container (20) being via flip-top lid (18) which is attached to the closure (14). The closure is manufactured by injection moulding using a two-shot one-piece moulding process.

FIG 4a



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Title: Closures for Containers

Description of Invention

This invention relates to closures for containers. In particular, but not exclusively, this invention relates to closures for containers of liquid, such as bottles.

Taking pills is not necessarily a simple process. Many people find pills difficult to swallow, particularly in the absence of an adequate supply of water. This difficulty may be exacerbated by certain medical conditions. Currently the only way to be sure of such a supply is to carry a bottle of water at all times, the size of which may be inconvenient.

Furthermore, if it is necessary to take a pill at short notice, due to for example a sudden headache, an entire packet of pills must be purchased although only one or two may be needed.

Pill storage boxes are known, but these are generally designed for people who are taking a large number of different pills and function as organisers and/or reminders.

According to a first aspect of this invention there is provided a closure for a first container, the closure comprising a second container.

This invention involves the realisation that a closure for a container can usefully provide storage space, for example, for pills, which may make use of normally empty storage space within the container.

Preferably the second container comprises a lid, which conveniently is accessible whether the closure is in an open or a closed position.

Preferably the closure is suitable for providing access to a bottle or other container of liquid.

The second container may be disposed at least partially within, preferably wholly within, the first container when the closure is in its closed position.

There are any number of suitable ways in which the closure may be manufactured, but preferably the closure is of a plastics material and conveniently it is a one-piece moulding.

Similarly the closure may be fastened to the first container in any number of ways, but preferably the connection between the closure and the first container is liquid tight and, conveniently, tamperproof. These requirements may be implemented easily by using a screw-top closure.

The connection between the lid and the second container is also preferably tamperproof, but, since it is in general advantageous that the closure be relatively small compared to the container, a snap-top construction is preferred for the lid.

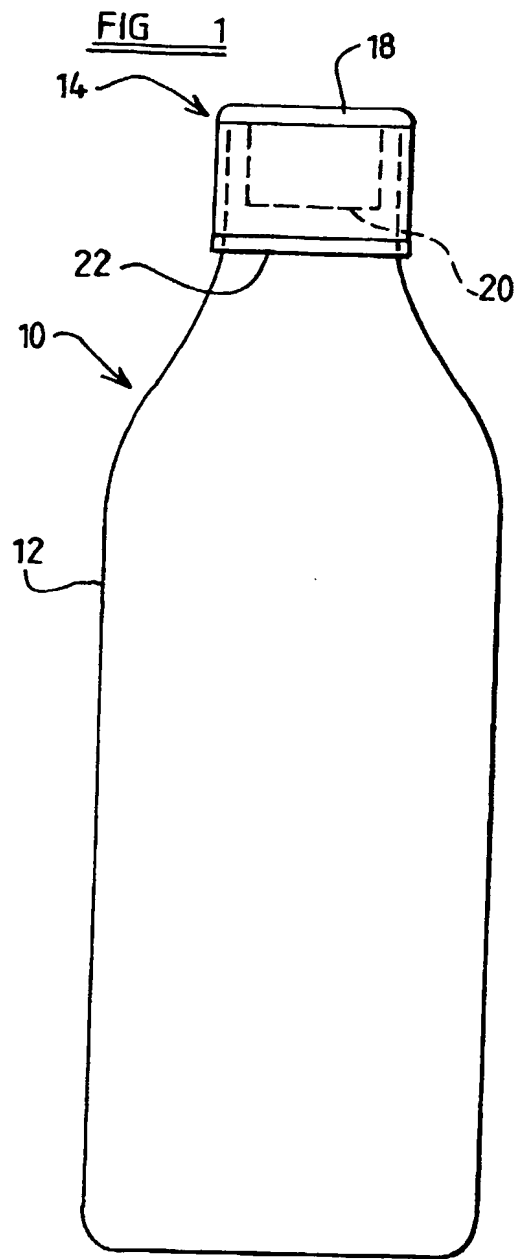
The second container may be suitable for storing a pill or capsule, particularly a vitamin pill. Alternatively it could be suitable for storing a liquid, for example a liquid to be mixed with a liquid stored in the first container. Gin and tonic would be examples of suitable liquids to use. The second container could also be suitable for storing a powder.

According to a second aspect of this invention there is provided a container comprising a closure as described above. Preferably the container is a bottle, or otherwise suitable for storing a liquid.

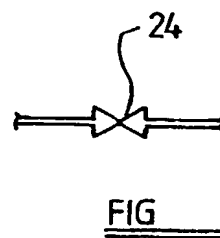
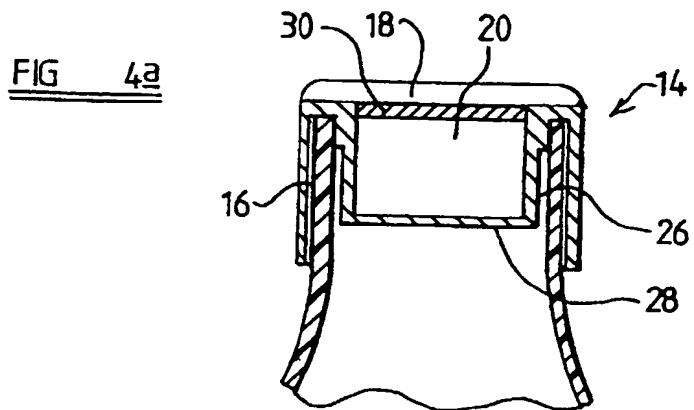
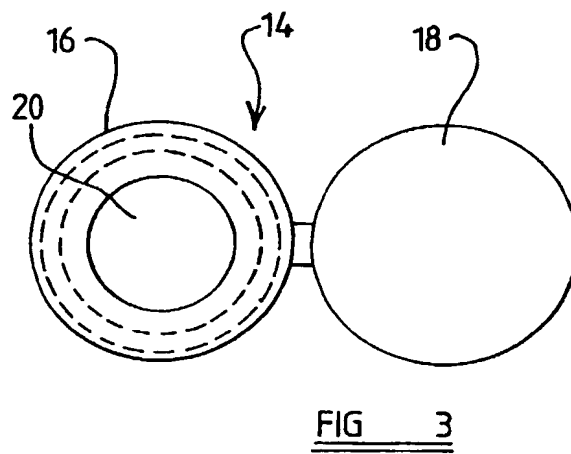
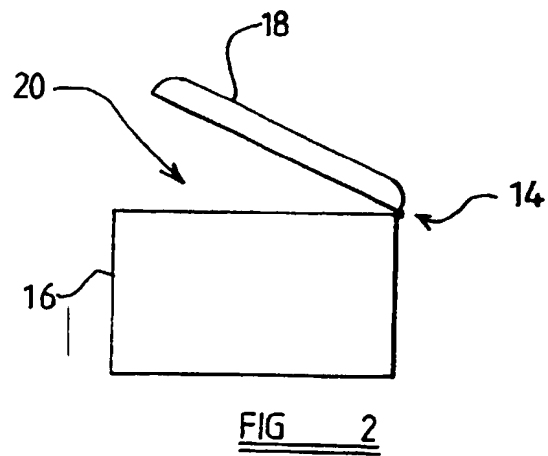
According to a third aspect of this invention there is provided a method for manufacturing a closure as described above comprising moulding the closure in one piece.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIGURE 1 shows schematically a perspective view of a container according to the invention;



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU02/01452

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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